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OLC 70-0820

18 November 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

**SUBJECT: Conversation with Ed Braswell, Chief of Staff,
Senate Armed Services Committee**

1. When Mr. Maury and I met with Ed Braswell this morning and gave him figures on recent ICBM deployment, the conversation turned to the war in Indochina. Mr. Maury reviewed again for Braswell the programs in North Laos, South Laos,

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2. Braswell expressed concern that Chairman Stennis was not getting a realistic picture of the situation in Indochina "from the military." Braswell had previously asked for any Agency studies on the subject of the South Vietnamese capabilities to take over the war in Vietnam and today he said it would be useful if Senator Stennis could have access to other Agency studies which would give him a thorough picture of the situation.

3. He also mentioned the Senator's concern over the widespread use of drugs by U. S. military personnel in Vietnam. He said the Committee will be receiving a briefing from DOD on this tomorrow. It is Braswell's understanding that raw heroin, originating in Turkey and processed through France, is being brought into Saigon and sold to U. S. military personnel at an amazingly low price considering that payoffs have apparently been given to a number of people along the way. Braswell suspects that this might even be part of a Communist plot since it did not make sense to him that a drug of this high potency would be made available so inexpensively. He assumes that the Agency must know something about what is going on and would like any information we can provide him on this.

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4. He also alluded to the report recently publicized on infiltration of enemy agents into South Vietnam. Mr. Maury pointed out that this report was now quite out of date and he suggested that in lieu of providing numerous papers we arrange to have George Carver brief the Chairman and Braswell on these topics at their convenience. Braswell did not turn down this suggestion, but repeated his request for any written material we could give him on these topics.



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Deputy Legislative Counsel

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